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15 January 1962

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

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Laos: Boun Oum, prior to his departure with Phoumi on 14 January for Geneva, reiterated his government's obdurate stand against accommodation with Souvanna. In a speech to the National Assembly, Boun Oum charged Souvanna was pro-Communist and said he would tell Souvanna he has failed in his attempt to form a coalition government. [Although Boun Oum is scheduled to arrive in Geneva today, Souphannouvong may be delayed until tomorrow, and Souvanna is awaiting word that these two are on hand before leaving Paris. The earliest meeting of the three now planned is one with the conference co-chairmen, Britain and the Soviet Union, on Tuesday afternoon.]

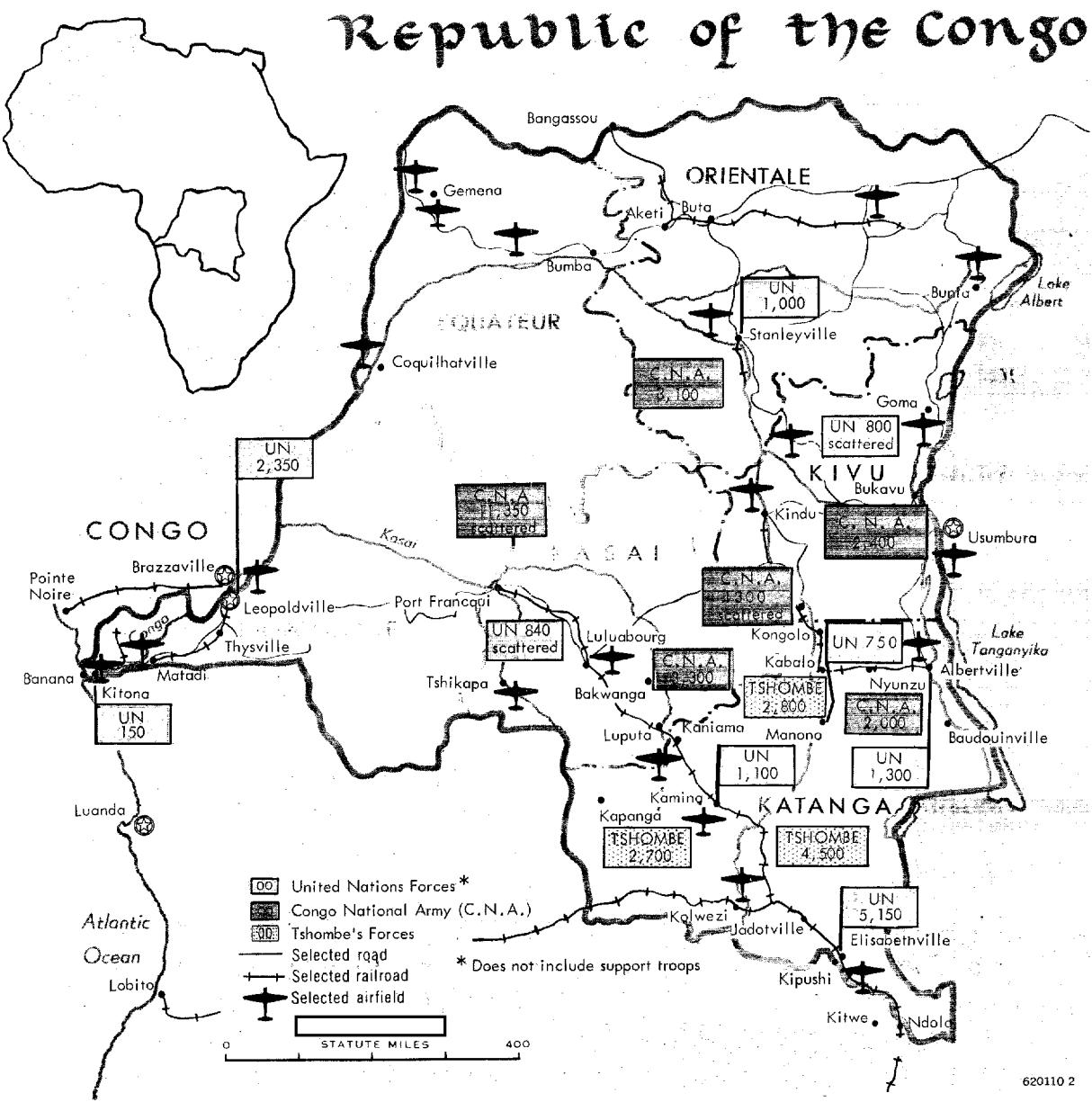
The civil air transport agreement signed on 13 January between Communist China and the Souvanna "government" is a further step by Peiping in its efforts to increase its influence in Laos. The agreement provides for the establishment of joint civil air routes between the two countries. The two governments at the same ceremony also formalized Souvanna Phouma's acceptance last April of Peiping's offer to construct a road from China to Phong Saly in northwest Laos. Peiping established a Chinese Communist Consulate General in Phong Saly last November.

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Congo: The extent of fighting in Stanleyville remains unclear, but indications are that Adoula is moving for a showdown with Gizenga, who now appears to be in open rebellion against the central government. Adoula has reportedly given General Lundula

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full authority to deal with Gizenga, and Sture Linner, top UN civilian official in the Congo, says that he has received authorization to support Adoula's efforts in Stanleyville "if required." Press reports of 14 January state that gendarmes guarding Gizenga's house have surrendered, and that Gizenga has announced he will return to Leopoldville by 20 January.

The Ethiopian UN commander in Stanleyville reported late on 13 January that he was fully satisfied with the security situation, and the UN Command accordingly canceled plans to fly a Tunisian battalion to Stanleyville on 14 January. Although a curfew has been established in Leopoldville, Adoula is reportedly not expecting serious disturbances. 25X1

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[] The Katanga assembly, scheduled to consider ratification of the Kitona agreement again on 15 January, is reportedly being quietly encouraged by Tshombé to stall on this matter. [] 25X1

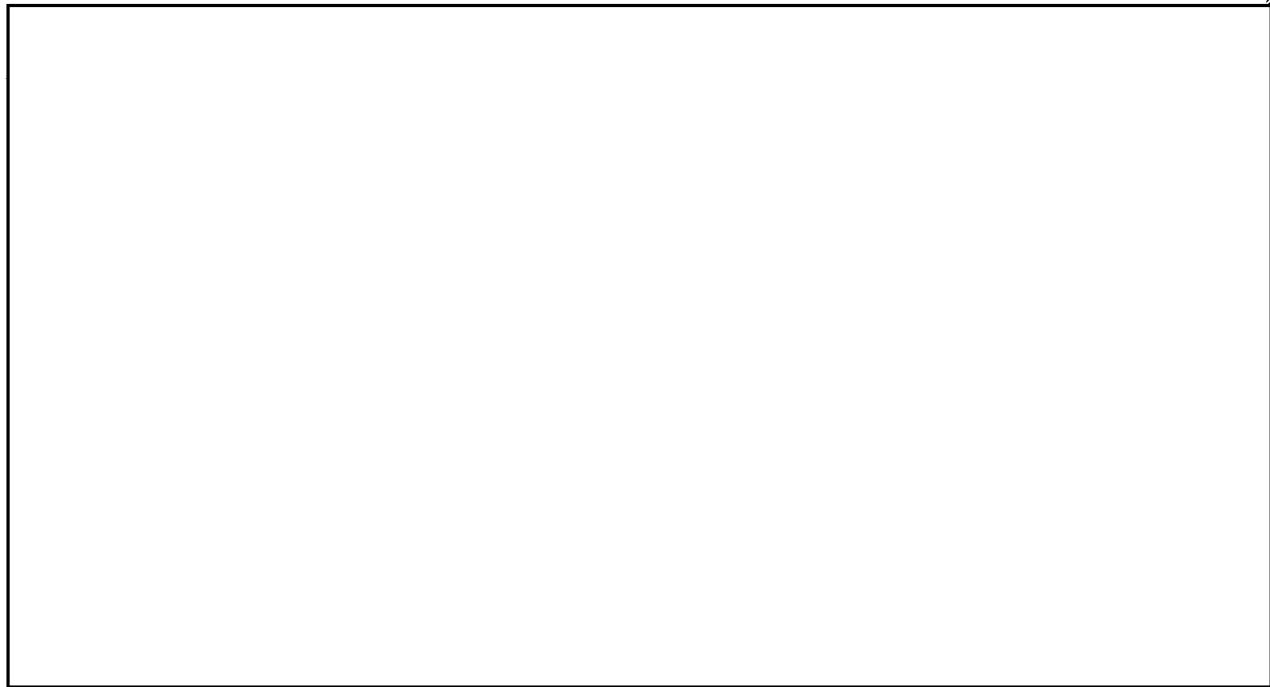
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Communist China - Albania: After nearly two months of negotiations, Peiping and Tirana on 13 January signed a 1962 trade protocol and a series of other documents on Sino-Albanian economic relations. Although details of the agreements have not been released, they probably provide for stepped-up Chinese aid to help counteract the sanctions imposed on Albania by the USSR and European satellites. As happened in 1961, the initial announcement of the Sino-Albanian agreements comes at a time when Peiping is also holding trade talks with the USSR, and more precise terms may be withheld pending the outcome of these negotiations as they were last year. At a banquet marking the signing of the new agreements, Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and Albanian Deputy Premier Kellezi effusively reaffirmed their intentions to maintain close political and economic ties despite Albania's break with Moscow.

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India: The death of Ajoy Ghosh, general secretary of the Communist party of India (CPI), on 13 January will make it more difficult for the party to maintain its facade of unity. Both the Moscow- and Peiping-oriented factions of the party had accepted Ghosh as a compromise leader, and his death is likely to occasion more intense behind-the-scenes maneuvering for position among rival CPI leaders. The party factions, however, will probably try to maintain their temporary truce until after the Indian national elections in late February, and they may be able to agree on an interim successor such as E. M. S. Namboodiripad, former chief minister of Kerala State who has served as acting general secretary when Ghosh has been out of the country.

An ideological showdown between the leftist and rightist factions is expected at the party congress soon after the elections. The death of Ghosh, who has been the leading moderate, will probably strengthen the leftists in their efforts to make the party line more militant. [redacted]

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